

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the Office Action May 12, 2009. As a restriction was issued in this case, the Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application for the non-elected claims. The Examiner is thanked for his careful review and for providing the current office action, in which clarity is requested.

Please enter the amendments presented herein, and respectfully reconsider the case based on the amendments.

Claim 34-37 were indicated to be allowable upon overcoming the 112 Para 2, rejection. Claims 34-37 were thus rejected, as lacking clarity regarding the term "to flatten the target audio signal" in claim 34. The Applicants have amended claim 34, with a clarifying amendment, to define that "to flatten..." means to "reduce an amplitude...". This is defined in paragraphs [0037] and [0038], among other places, in the as-filed specification. An example of the reduced amplitude is also shown in Figure 3B, relative to Figure 3A, of the as-filed application. Accordingly, it is submitted that this amendment does not add new matter, and provides the clarity that is consistent with the disclosed subject matter. Accordingly, in light of this clarifying amendment, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the Section 112 rejection.

All items being addressed, the Examiner is kindly requested to issue a Notice of Allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 749-6903. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No SONYP034). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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